

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1935, contains approximately 160,000 acres of prime bottomland hardwood habitat located within the floodplain of the lower White River. For management purposes, most of the lands within the refuge have been divided into a North Unit and a South Unit which are separated by Arkansas Highway 1. Refuge out-lying tracts are not depicted on the accompanying maps, but maps are available upon request. These tracts are open for hunting in accordance with state seasons and bag limits. All users are permitted on the refuge in accordance with State and Federal regulations as supplemented by the following special refuge regulations.

Access and Vehicle Use

The maximum speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph, unless posted otherwise. Refuge roads on the South Unit are open to vehicular traffic March 1 through December 15 except the Jacks Bay waterfowl hunt area will remain open through duck season. All other refuge roads are open all year. A locked gate, road closed sign, or other barrier (i.e. mounded dirt) means the road is closed to all motorized vehicles but not to **bicycle/foot** travel unless signed otherwise. For refuge road and closure information, call the refuge headquarters at 870/282 8200, extension #1.

All licensed vehicles must stay on gravel roads. On both the North and South Units, ATV's or UTV's may only be used on yellow marked trails and are only allowed for wildlife dependent hunting and fishing activities. The trails are marked with high visibility yellow ink on trees.

An ATV or UTV is defined as a vehicle with a maximum tire pressure of 15 psi, a maximum dry weight of 1550 lbs., and with tires having a centerline lug depth of one inch or less. Only those vehicles originally designed by their manufacturer to be ATVs or UTVs are allowed; mini-trucks or other modified off- road vehicles are prohibited. Personal watercraft (jet-ski, sea-do) are prohibited on the refuge. ATVs or UTVs may not be left unattended or stored on the refuge.

Boats with owner's name and address permanently displayed or valid registration may be left on the refuge from March 1 to October 31. **All boats must be removed from the refuge November 1 through February 28.**

Portable tree stands left unattended must have the owner's name and address affixed in a conspicuous manner.

No other personal items (i.e. weapons, blinds, etc.) may be left unattended.

Permits

This user permit or signature section from the front page must be in possession and signed by ALL refuge users. In addition, quota hunt permits are also required to participate in the first three days of the modern gun and muzzleloader hunts on the north and south units.

General Hunt Regulations

State bag limits apply for all hunts unless indicated otherwise in this brochure. Hunters who have harvested their limit of deer and need to assist others to a stand and/or help remove a deer must do so **without** being in possession of a **weapon**.

Beaver, nutria, coyote and muskrat may be taken without the use of dogs during any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt until the daily limit of game is taken. **In cooperation with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Feral Hog Control Program, Feral Hogs may only be taken on the Refuge during the Modern Gun and Muzzleloader deer hunts.** Live hogs may not be transported or possessed.

A hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid Hunter Education Card. Hunters under 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arms reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license of at least 21 years of age. Youth hunters under the age of 16 who have a valid Hunter Education Card must also be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old but must only remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. An adult may supervise only one youth for big game hunting and up to two youths for waterfowl and small game. Home state Hunter Education Cards will be honored.

All other hunting is closed during quota deer hunts except Archery Hunting for deer or Kansas Lake Area.

Weapons

Persons may only use (discharge) firearms during authorized hunting seasons while attempting to take game species. All hunting weapons used on the refuge must comply with state regulations for each game species, except the use or possession of buckshot is prohibited.

Flood Zone Closure Regulations

North Unit

The refuge will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at St. Charles reaches 23 feet as reported by

the following website (Look at Number 53): <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm>)

Season will reopen when the gauge reading reaches 21 feet as reported by the same website.

South Unit

The refuge will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at St. Charles reaches 23 feet and the tail-water gauge reading at Norrel Lock and Dam #1 reaches 145 simultaneously as reported by the following website (Look at Number 55): <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm>)

Season will reopen when the gauge reading reaches 21 and 143 feet respectively as reported by the same website. For refuge road closure information, call the refuge headquarters at 870/282 8200. ext. #1

Check Stations

During the gun quota hunts, refuge staff will collect biological data. Collection of this information is needed for deer management decisions. **New: Look for Biological information to be filled out on back of quota hunt permits.**

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete the hunting license kill information. All big game taken on the South Unit must be recorded as zone 660 and North Unit must be recorded as zone 661. Out-lying tracts are the same zone number of the surrounding state zone. Call 866/305 0808 or visit <http://www.agfc.com/hunting/pages/huntingcheckinggame.aspx> to check your deer or turkey within 24 hours of harvest.

Archery Deer

North Unit: October 1, 2014–January 31, 2015

Refuge permit required. State Zone 9 bag limit applies (either-sex). No antler restrictions apply.

South Unit: October 1, 2014–December 31, 2014. Refuge user brochure/permit required. State Zone 9 bag limit applies (either-sex). No antler restrictions apply.

(Kansas Lake Area) October 1–November 30: Non-Quota hunting closed during dates units are open for Quota Deer hunts except Archery Hunting on Kansas Lake Area.

Muzzleloader Deer

North & South Unit: October 18 –20, 2014. Quota Hunt Permit and Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one deer (either sex, no antler restrictions).

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dale Bumpers White River *National Wildlife Refuge 2014-2015*



Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge User Permit 2014-2015

This permit must be read and signed to be valid. It must be carried by all. It is not transferable.

Note: This permit alone is not good for the quota permit gun hunt or muzzleloader hunt.

You can go to:
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/white_river/, go to visit, then permits, and look for printable map. Here you can print the brochure or obtain a hard copy.

Name _____

Address _____

By carrying the signature portion of the brochure, you have read and understand the refuge regulations.

Signature _____

Dale Bumpers White River
National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 205
St. Charles, AR 72140
870/282 8200
<http://www.fws.gov/whiteriver>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

June 2014



North Unit Only: October 21–24, 2014. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (buck only, no antler restrictions).

Modern Gun Deer Youth Hunt

North and South Unit: November 1–2, 2014. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (either sex, no antler restrictions). This is a “youth only hunt.” A 65 (years of age) plus hunt does not apply.

Modern Gun Deer

North and South Unit: November 8–10, 2014. Quota Hunt Permit and Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one deer (either sex, no antler restrictions).

Kansas Lake Unit is closed to gun hunt but archery hunting is allowed without quota permit.

North Unit Only: November 11–12, 2014. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (buck only, no antler restrictions).

Quota permits are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Special Youth Deer Hunt at Cooks Lake

December 6-7, 2014. Youth Quota Permit required. Limit two (one buck and one doe, no antler restrictions, Bonus Deer). Call 870/282 8200 for details. Special Youth Deer Hunt at Cooks Lake.

Mobility Impaired Modern Gun Hunt at Cooks Lake

December 12–14, 2014. Mobility Impaired Quota Permit required. Limit two (one buck and one doe, no antler restrictions, Bonus Deer).

Annual Refuge Deer Limit and Definition

State Deer “Zone 9” bag limit applies and either sex with no antler restrictions (Button bucks will be checked as bucks). **The total number of bucks that may be harvested through a combination of all refuge hunts is two.** Only four deer total may be taken from a combination of both units of the refuge.

Waterfowl

Duck hunting is permitted until noon. Retriever dogs are permitted. Only portable blinds are permitted. Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge until 4 am. Boats, blinds, blind material, and decoys must be removed from the refuge by 1 pm each day. **Waterfowl hunting is closed on the White River from Holly Lake downstream to Benzal Bridge.**

North Unit: Statewide duck season, and youth hunt day(s). Coot may be taken if in season.

South Unit: CLOSED, **EXCEPTION** (JACKS BAY HUNT AREA ONLY) open every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday of the statewide duck season. Coot may be taken if in season. Designated area only (see map).

Furbearer

North Unit: 12 noon, November 15, 2014 – 12 noon, January 31, 2015. Dogs may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. Horses and mules prohibited.

South Unit: 12 noon, December 1, 2014 – 12 noon, December 15, 2014. Dogs may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. Horses and mules prohibited.

Both Units: Taking of any furbearing animal is limited to rimfire weapons and shotguns.

Furbearer (trapping): (North Unit only)–Must obtain Special Use Permit from Refuge Headquarters at St. Charles: 870/282 8200

South Unit is closed to furbearer trapping.

Rabbit and Squirrel

North Unit: September 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015
Refuge user brochure/permit required. Dogs are allowed December 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015. (Season closed during Quota Deer Hunts).

South Unit: September 1, 2014 – November 30, 2014.
Refuge user brochure/permit required. Season closed during Quota Deer Hunts. **No dogs allowed.**

Turkey

Fall gun and Archery: Closed

Turkey – Spring gun

North and South Units: Same as state 2015 season for surrounding zone. Statewide limit applies. **Non-toxic shot required.**

Bear season closed on all refuge lands including cooperatively managed tracts.

Prohibited Acts

- Cutting, painting or defacing trees.

- The use of horses or mules

- Unleashed dogs if not actively hunting.

- Fires outside campsites.

- Littering (including, but not limited to shotgun shell hulls and cigarette butts).

- Operating a motor vehicle without a license (driver or vehicle) or in violation of State law.

- After November 30, boating in south unit waterfowl hunt area, except from 4 am to 1 pm on waterfowl hunt days.

- Operating an ATV on gravel roads.

- Camping in non designated campgrounds (see map).

- Loud noise in campgrounds after 10 pm, including generators.

- Not occupying campsites on a daily basis.

- Persons camping and/or physical camps staying longer than 14 days during any 30 consecutive day period.

- Camping or ATV/UTV use for any reason other than wildlife dependent activities.

- Fires left unattended; fires not extinguished upon final departure.

- Possession of a loaded hunting weapon within 100 yards of a campground.

Hunting

- All other hunting is closed during quota deer hunts except archery hunting on Kansas Lake Unit.

- Hunting with the aid of or possession of bait, salt or ingestible attractant.

- **Use of dogs from any gravel roadway during squirrel or raccoon hunts.**

- Marking trails with materials other than bio-degradable paper flagging or reflective tape/tacks.

- Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

- Consumption of alcohol or possession of opened alcoholic beverage container on roadways and in parking areas.

- Waterfowl hunting on Kansas Lake Area.

- Firearms deer hunting in the Kansas Lake area after October 30.

- Cutting shooting lanes or other manipulation of vegetation or hunting in such areas.

- Possessing and/or using toxic shot by hunters using shotguns to hunt small game or waterfowl.

- All forms of man-deer drives.

- Firearms hunting from or across roadways, levees, and maintained utility rights-of-way. (Exception: Waterfowl may be hunted in these areas when flooded.)

- Driving or screwing any object into a tree or to hunt from a tree in which an object has been driven or screwed.

- Leaving a hunt stand more than seven days before or after a hunt season.

- Target practice.

- No person shall utilize the service of a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or other person who provides equipment, services, or assistance on the refuge for compensation unless the guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or person has obtained a Special Use Permit from the refuge. It is your responsibility to verify that the guide, guide service, etc. has obtained the required Special Use Permit.

- Hunting, taking, possessing, or attempting to take wildlife with an unauthorized guide, guide service, outfitter, club or organization providing assistance, service or equipment is prohibited.

Guiding and Other Commercial Uses

No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment on the refuge to any other person for compensation unless such guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization has obtained a Special Use Permit from the refuge.

For the purpose of this regulation, any fee paid or services rendered to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation. A refuge Special Use Permit is also required for all other commercial activities on the refuge.

Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated compgrounds and dates as listed in map legend. For a list of nearby private campgrounds visit our website: www.fws.gov/refuge/White_River.

Down wood may be gathered for use as firewood at campsites. To prevent the spread of harmful invasive insects, please do not bring firewood from elsewhere. Campers are required to remove all of their trash from the refuge. Campers must stay within the area blazed with white paint in designated camping areas.

Sport Fishing and Frogging Regulations

Fishing is permitted year round in LaGrue, Essex, Prairie, Scrubgrass & Brooks Bayous, Big Island Chute, Moon and Belknap Lakes next to Arkansas Highway 1, Indian Bay, the Arkansas Post Canal and adjacent drainage ditches, those borrow ditches located adjacent to the west bank of that portion of the White River Levee north of the Graham Burke pumping station,, and all refuge owned waters located north of Arkansas Highway 1. All other refuge waters are open to sport fishing from March 1 through November 30 unless posted otherwise.

Frogging is permitted on all refuge owned waters open for sport fishing as follows: South Unit, frogging is permitted from the beginning of the state season through November 30; North Unit, frogging is permitted for the entire state season.

Mobility-impaired Users

Mobility-impaired users may apply for a permit allowing the use of ATV’s in accordance with special use permit guidelines. Issuance of the permit is restricted to persons with severe mobility impairments as verified by a Physician’s Verification of Disability form. For more information, please call the refuge at 870/282 8200.

Our Visitor Center is Open

Monday – Friday, 8 am – 4 pm.

Potlatch Conservation Education Center

870/244 3373

